

It is now more than six months ago, that, in briefly examining the several alleged grounds of the existing war with Mexico, and showing the absurdity of some, the falsity of others, and the insufficiency of them all taken together to constitute a rational ground of war on our part, we said, that at that moment, more than twelve months after our army was ordered to advance into the territory west of the Nueces, and sit down before Matamoros, no human intelligence could any more foresee the events of the war than it had pleased the headlong majority in Congress to scrutinize the commencement. "Every man, reasonable or unreasonable," we said, "must confess that the prospect darkens as we advance; that we now seem much further from the termination of this war than we did at its outset; that the millions and the lives which have been lavished have rendered nothing certain, but a still more profuse expenditure of more millions and more lives." And we referred at the same time to the then thickening gloom of fatal party compliances to Executive usurpations; to the desolation, the illegality, the domestic waste, the corruption and the imperial Presidential power that were growing up from this contest, and must be the consequence of its prolongation.

Sooner even than we could have expected, this anticipation of coming events has been most signally realized. We have, it is true, no official accounts of the latest occurrences in Mexico; but there is no reason to doubt that the blood of our fellow-citizens, and it is apprehended of many of the most cherished and best beloved among them, has been again lavishly poured out amidst the rocks and ravines by which the capital of Mexico is approached and surrounded. That the arms of the United States have been again triumphant, is as little to be doubted. Notwithstanding which, can there be a generous heart that does not sicken at the particulars, even faintly as they are yet described to us, of the renewed scenes of horrible carnage between the contending forces of the two greatest Republics of the earth?

And how does our Administration, the author of this war—responsible to the country for all this bloodshed; to the Mother for her Son; to the Widow and her Children for her Husband and their Father; to Society for its thinned ranks, its wasted wealth, and its deteriorated morals—how does this Administration receive the news which announces the death of thousands of our fellow-citizens, we may say almost without a figure, by its bloody hand? Why, thus it receives it:

FROM "THE UNION" OF SATURDAY NIGHT.  
*"The Capital taken by General Scott—Our flag flying over the Halls of the Montezumas." We have the proud satisfaction of announcing that we have conquered the capital. Glory covers our arms. We have stricken down the Mexican eagle, standing upon the prickly pear, with the rattle-snake in its mouth, and we have substituted our own flag and our own North American eagle. "Thanks again to our gallant General!" &c.*

It is impossible to read or to repeat the head-line of this extract from the government paper without recurring to the original conception of this conquest of Mexico—of this revel in "the Halls of the Montezumas"—to this dream of an unholy ambition, which is at length realized and proclaimed in tones of exultation which would be nothing but ludicrous if they were not portentous of yet greater evils than the slaughter of our friends and brethren, which hang over our country, and are prefigured in the boast of our having substituted "our own flag and our own eagle" as the emblem of sovereignty over Mexico. How long has this design of subjugating Mexico been entertained? Is it only since the breaking out of this war? Have any of our readers forgotten the first conception of this crusade to "the Halls of the Montezumas"? Let us refresh their memory at this moment, now that the fact has become more important than it was when we heretofore alluded to it: The idea was broached (as we told our readers a year ago) not since the beginning of this war—when the possibility of such an event, though certainly not a desirable one, might not unnaturally have entered into any one's head—but in cold blood, by the organ of the present Administration, within the first three months after its establishment in office, and within one week after the Editor of the new government paper took his post. In the "Union" of the 8th of May, 1845, referring to some speculations of a London newspaper upon the supposed designs of the United States upon Mexico, our Government Editor took occasion to say that not 25,000 men nor 20,000 would be necessary, but that 10,000 men would be enough, to march upon Mexico, adding as follows:

"Sound the bugle through the West and South-west—let the United States raise the standard to-morrow, and in this proclaimed crusade to the Halls of Montezuma and the Mines of Mexico twenty thousand volunteers would appear." &c.

And, on the 22d of the same month, replying to the Cincinnati Gazette's exception to the spirit and temper of the above intimation, the "Union" said: "Was it wrong in us to tell the London Times that, though we might not have regular troops enough, yet volunteers would start up at the first sound of the bugle by the Government of the United States sufficient to overrun Mexico, occupy the Halls of Montezuma, and conquer the valleys of California?"

Yes, the dream of the Administration has come to pass. Mexico is overrun, and "the Halls of Montezuma" are occupied. The object of the authors of this war is thus far accomplished. If our gallant General is able to hold the ground he has gained—and, for the sake of himself and the brave army under his command, we trust he is in no danger of being driven from it by force—the fearful question arises, Where is all this to end? Ay, *Where?* What is to come next is a question the answer to which is anticipated by the Administration itself, speaking through its organ as follows:

FROM "THE UNION" OF SATURDAY NIGHT.  
*"The rumors from Mexico of the nature of the negotiations which have taken place, and of the terms offered on our part, disclosed as they are by passing through a Mexican medium, will of course be received by the country with much distrust of their accuracy. But we believe that they will be taken as proving that the demands of our Government were, in view of all the circumstances of the case, conceived in a spirit of signal justice and moderation. The obstinate and perverse rejection of them by Mexico will, at all events, be universally regarded as demonstrating the fact that the time for conciliatory measures on our part is now past." In the wrong from the first—insolent to treaty stipulations—violent and lawless in her outrages upon our citizens—almost incapable of civil-*

self-government and aggressive and insolent in her attitude toward the territory of the State of Texas now solemnly incorporated into our Union—having placed herself thus distinctly in an attitude of warfare against the great principles of popular sovereignty, and having, in pursuance of this intolerable policy, entered within our own borders and shed the blood of our citizens—Mexico now finds herself conquered and humbled past retrieval by the energy of our Government and the valor of our arms, and yet assumes to reject with scorn, even while her strongholds are in our possession and her capital wholly at our mercy, all the propositions of equitable and honorable peace which we have kept constantly open to her acceptance. Towards such an enemy our course is plain. The character of our war must change. It must be prosecuted with new ardor and with new power. Our enemy must be made to feel its burdens and its evils more and more. She must bear the brunt of its expenses. The inhabitants of her towns must be laid under stringent contributions. Subsistence for our armies must be gathered from her country. Since conciliation is spurned, the strong hand must be resorted to to maintain our rights and our honor. Mexico must be made to feel that she now continues the war at her peril—at the peril of incurring all its evils and losses—at the peril of paying the penalty of its further prosecution in terms of peace even less favorable to her pretensions than those which we have already offered. Meantime nothing must be wanting on our part to the most vigorous prosecution of the war. We must pour in new troops upon her, and demand and take from her authorities and her people the means of subsisting and supporting them in the field."

Upon this official exposition of the designs of the Executive we have only time now to make one or two remarks:

First. We concur of course in the views of the Administration as to the present policy of sending into Mexico, with all practicable dispatch, all the further effective force which it can command, and of providing promptly and liberally the supplies which are necessary to support the whole army in Mexico. A proper regard to the safety of the army would enjoin this policy, were there not other considerations also in its favor.

Secondly. The Administration shall not repeat its attempt to make a false issue with the People of the United States as to the origin of this war, without our meeting and denouncing it. It is not true that Mexico "entered within our own borders and shed the blood of our citizens." Never has a Mexican in arms advanced within a hundred miles of the soil of the United States, (including Texas with its proper boundaries.) We shall not here renew the argument on this point, the opinion of all disinterested thinking men in the United States being settled in regard to it. We will, however, cite once more in reference to it an authority, which, whether we consider his relations to the question or to the Administration, which has shown its willingness to place the issues of Peace or War in his hands, must be deemed unanswerable. We quote the exact words of the Resolution proposed by the Hon. Mr. Benton during the discussion of the Annexation question in the Senate of the United States:

"Resolved, That the incorporation of the left bank of the Rio del Norte into the American Union, by virtue of a treaty with Texas, comprehending, as the said incorporation would, a part of the Mexican departments of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, would be an act of direct aggression on Mexico; for all the consequences of which the United States would stand responsible."

Thirdly. The government paper admits the representation of the terms proposed by the United States to Mexico as the basis of a Peace to be substantially correct; and in doing so admits the probable correctness of the statement of the Mexican propositions and negotiations. But, since the publication of the "Union" which contains this admission, the propositions on both sides have reached us and are published, though they do not state the exact point upon which the negotiation was broken off. The comments of the "Union," however, seem to be specially directed to the refusal of Mexico to give up to us the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande.

Upon that statement we have to remark, that, if the country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande belonged to Mexico before the war, as Mr. Benton and all fair men acknowledge, her refusal now to cede it to the United States should give no offence to this country. We wish most sincerely she had given up the point, but she had a right not to do so. Sound policy would, in our opinion, have dictated the cession or surrender on her part for a consideration. National pride, national submissiveness, if you please, forbade it. But this refusal constituted no cause for making or continuing war with her. A war upon that ground is in reality a war upon a feigned issue, such as litigious people make who have a fondness for being at law with their neighbors, but which is unworthy of the Government of a magnanimous people. It places the Administration in the unpleasant predicament, after having on all occasions proclaimed that its object in prosecuting the war was "to conquer a peace," of renewing the war to force Mexico to strip herself of territory of no part of which was she ever for a moment dispossessed until the Executive marched the army of the United States into it.

Fourthly. The proposition made by Mexico to compromise her right to the territory in question, agreeing, in effect, that it shall be hereafter a neutral ground between the United States and Mexico, is one which would be more useful to the United States than the possession of it in fee, and ought, properly considered, to be acceptable to the People and Government of the United States, if ever again proposed to them. To sustain this view of the subject, we have authority which the Executive cannot object to, being that of one of its most ardent supporters, so much so that the President lately proposed him to the Senate as our Minister to one of the greatest Powers of the world. We mean the Hon. C. J. INGEROLL, who, in his speech on the 3d day of January, 1845, on the annexation of Texas, expressed himself very distinctly as follows:

"The stupendous deserts between the Nueces and the Rio Grande rivers are the natural boundaries between the Anglo-Saxon and the Mexican races. There ends the valley of the West. There Mexico begins. There, beyond the Bravo, begin the Moorish people and their Indian associates, to whom Mexico properly belongs; who should not cross that vast desert if they could, as on our side we, too, ought to stop there, because inter-nationable conflicts must ensue either our going south or their coming north of that gigantic boundary. While peace is cherished, that boundary will be sacred. Not till the spirit of conquest rages will the people on either side molest or mix with each other; and whenever they do, one or the other race must be conquered, if not extinguished."

The Legislature of New York has passed a bill, which has become a law by being approved by the Governor, to supply by election, this fall, the vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor, occasioned by the resignation of Judge Gardner.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH FROM MAJOR LALLY.  
 The following letter from Major Lally was addressed to Col. Wilson, at Vera Cruz, and by him forwarded to Adjutant General R. Jones, in this city:

HEADQUARTERS JALAPA, AUGUST 26, 1847.

To Governor Wilson, Vera Cruz:

My command reached this place on the morning of the 20th instant. We have fought our way triumphantly every inch of the route, but have had severe contests—namely, battles—with the guerrillas; on the 10th, at Paso Ovejas, (as before reported) on the 12th August at the National Bridge, on the 15th of August at Cerro Gordo, and on the 19th at Las Animas, only a mile and a half from this city. Not a wagon has fallen into the hands of the enemy. We have been opposed by at least 1,200 or 1,500 guerrillas on these occasions—perhaps less at the last, for they were badly whipped at Cerro Gordo, where their loss was so large that they could not reorganize. Father Jarauta commanded them. Our loss is great. During the entire march, 7 officers wounded; 12 of rank and file killed; 5 mortally wounded; 66 wounded. Of this number, 4 killed and 4 wounded were at places elsewhere than the four actions named above. I regret to say that, at the National Bridge, Mr. George D. Twigg, (expecting a commission, and to be A. D. C. to Gen. T.) was killed while gallantly serving on foot. Mr. H. Caldwell, of volunteers, and Capt. A. C. Cummings, 9th infantry, were wounded on the 10th, (as before reported), but are doing well now. At National Bridge, Lieut. James A. Winder, of volunteers, and Lieut. George A. Adams, of marine corps, were dangerously wounded; also, on the same day, Capt. W. J. Clark, 12th infantry, in the thigh; 2d Lieut. Charles M. Cresson, 12th infantry, not severely, in the leg. At Las Animas, on the 19th, Major P. T. Lally, 9th infantry, commanding officer, was wounded in the neck, not severely, but, for a few days, been disabled from command. A large number of sick have accumulated, besides our wounded; and we shall be compelled to remain here many days to recruit. I cannot too much praise the gallantry of the officers; the men, raw and untrained, have gradually acquired confidence. We were on the 22d of August, when the 24th, were heard were in danger at Cerro Gordo. We waited three days for your reinforcement, and, hearing of it at Plan del Rio, sent back a body of dragons to National Bridge, who, finding it in possession of the enemy, we concluded that it was repulsed. I am pained at the rumor we heard of the loss of some of its wagons. Dr. Cooper and 13 dragons reached us. I cannot earnestly recommend the hands above the authority to order the reconquest of this city. Even if Gen. Scott was not before the city of Mexico, and beyond the reach of reinforcements, you perceive that trains are constantly endangered by guerrillas, and I am satisfied that this city has been their headquarters, and that their chief supplies have been forwarded from here. Their spirits have been raised by the success of the 24th, and the hands above the spot, would order its reconquest. Col. Wynkoop concurs in its importance. Very truly yours,

F. T. LALLY,  
 Major 9th Infantry, commanding.

We understand that Major Lally's suggestion has been anticipated, and that orders were issued on the 12th of August, from the office of the Adjutant General, directing the occupation of Jalapa. We presume that, before this time, a military post has been established in that city. We cannot doubt that Major Lally's force, joined with Col. Wynkoop's and Gen. Lane's force, at least 2,000, has advanced to form a junction with Gen. Scott.—Union.

Extract of a letter from one of the Baltimore Bulletin.

PUNTE NACIONAL, SEPT. 15, 1847.

On the 6th we left Vera Cruz, with five companies of our battalion, one company of the 11th, and one of the 2d infantry, two pieces of artillery, and about one hundred mounted men, under Col. Hughes, with nothing but four days' rations. We reached the middle of the Rio San Juan, the day, and reached the bridge of San Juan that night, where we bivouacked in a torrent of rain without a tent to cover us.

About 5 P. M. the next day we reached the celebrated pass called "the Robber's Den," upon the heights around which the enemy were seen in large numbers. But we crossed the bridge and entered the town without molestation. As we started next morning we were met by a small force of men, several shots were fired at us without effect, and a few shots were returned made them cease. On this day a march the town was so intense that many of the men gave out, and we had determined to halt, when we perceived the brights covered with the enemy, who commenced firing. We advanced upon them and they fled, and we then encamped upon the heights about two miles from this place. The next day, the 9th, we started and soon saw the forts and the castle of San Juan, and the parts. We planted our guns within six hundred yards of the fort, but soon found them too high for our artillery. So we determined to carry the fort by the bayonet. Col. Hughes then ordered Major Kenley to turn the left of the hill and take the enemy in reverse. He took Barry's, Dolan's, and Brown's companies, with fifty dismounted dragons, and having thrown of jackets, knapsacks, and all but cartridges, they went forward, we started to climb the hill. After three hours of great physical effort, climbing up precipices by holding on to the roots of trees and hanging vines, we reached the crest. Here we breathed a little and dashed into the fort. But the enemy, who had perceived us, had fled, and three cheers announced to those below our possession of the place.

PROGRESS OF DISCOVERY IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

FROM THE LONDON SPECTATOR.

While more than one State Government is blundering away at measure of proved uselessness to mitigate the horrors of barbarity on the seaboard of Western Africa, a Liverpool merchant and a sea captain have penetrated to the interior, and have surveyed the highway not only to that interior but to the civilization of Africa. Mr. Robert Jamieson, of Liverpool, has collected the means and planned the enterprise with a disinterested perseverance and zeal for discovery far above the mere trading spirit of the times. Mr. Beccroft has immortalized himself as one of the most daring, most devoted, and most intelligent of English discoverers. In spite of the obstacles, aggravated rather than removed by the proceedings of the English Government—in spite of the most disastrous misadventure—Mr. Beccroft has succeeded in establishing the fact that the interior is accessible for navigation and trade. He has thrown light on the interior of the continent, and has ascertained that only forty miles of the river remains to be explored—the part between Lever, his highest point, and Bousah, Park's lowest; the great water way being the key to several regions of beautiful and fertile country, peopled by diverse races, and affording opportunities for legitimate commerce of indefinite extension. The lower Niger and its branches penetrate an immense delta, containing thousands of miles of richly fertile and wooded country. The upper Niger extends only for a limited space upwards, and as it ascends the river the healthiness becomes equal to that of the tropics generally. This region is inhabited by negro moss, warlike, rude, yet not destitute of civilization, and eager for trade. On the middle Niger, above Iddah, the inhabitants assume more of the Arab aspect, are more civilized, congregate in towns so large that the river remains to be explored to contain twenty thousand inhabitants, but the people are less eager for trade. They are prejudiced against strangers from the west by the Arab dealers, who come to them in caravans across the continent, and strive to exclude rivals from the market. This prejudice, however, does not seem to be very powerful, and the trade which can repay the toilsome transit across the continent is sure to remunerate traders who come by the comparatively short and easy path of the Niger. The requisites for a successful trade with the inhabitants of the Niger are now well ascertained by the experience of Mr. Beccroft and his fellow-voyagers in the Ethiopian steamer. First, you want iron steamers of less draught and greater engine power, for by his means vessels not only the Niger but its tributaries might be navigated at almost all seasons of the year. You want officers, like Mr. Beccroft, of hardy constitution, insured to the climate, of brave spirit, discreet, and shrewd. You want trading managers capable of accommodating their manners to the wayward dealings of a rude people, and able to estimate the value of produce little known. You want crews mostly of African blood, and, at all events, of sufficient stamina to the power to move rapidly, and to deal with the natives, are requisites far more important than mere armed forces. Ivory, vegetable tallow, peppers, indigo, cotton-wool, palm oil, a sort of calumet or haricot beans, dye-woods, timber woods, skins, and a great variety of produce that the natives slightly know, invite the trade. The great desideratum is the efficiency in the hands of navigating the river, and it is evident that a commerce of indefinite extension will repay any sums laid out in thoroughly establishing that efficiency of navigation. Of course the free blacks educated in the West Indian land will become useful workmen in penetrating the native land of their race. We must depend, at least for generations to come, on the black race to supply the bulk of the crew.

GROWTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.—In 1790 the whole personal property of the State of Massachusetts was estimated at \$44,024,347. In 1809 it had increased to \$97,949,616. In 1829 it was \$209,456,432; and in 1840 it amounted to \$227,880,338. The average in 1840 was \$406.50 to each resident of the State, the number of inhabitants being more than 700,000; and in 1847 it will amount to about \$389,400,000. From these facts it appears that wealth increases in Massachusetts three times faster than the population. Were the whole property of the State divided every family coming of living has kept pace with the increase, for the average surplus over consumption is only about ten dollars per head.—Exchange paper.

THE SARATOGA FAIR.

FROM THE TRIBUNE.

We make the following extract from a letter that appeared in the Washington "Union" on Wednesday evening last in relation to the State Agricultural Fair at Saratoga. It is from the pen of one of the best of our newspaper writers:

"There were fine horses at the fair. One of the Eclipse blood obtained the first premium. Black Hawk (the famous Northern trotter) obtained a premium. Black Hawk is pronounced by Mr. Skinner to be one of the finest horses in America. His merits will be made known to the world through the report of a committee, of which my friend Zerk Pratt was chairman. He is a splendid animal, and out-trots any thing under the sun."

"The Fair was attended by a number of Southern gentlemen, and among those who took an interest in the exhibition I noticed some residents of Washington—Major Heintz, Col. Knox Walker, Mr. Halseman, of the Diplomatic Corps, and Mr. Blagden—the last of whom selected for purchase a pair of Devonshires, that I admired more than any on the field."

"Mr. J. S. Skinner has a prescriptive title to the regards and to the honors of all agricultural associations. He was the father of them in this country, and has been their zealous and steadfast promoter. He appeared on this occasion merely as a visitor, though with great success in the culture of corn and potatoes. He considers it a very valuable manure in northern climates, where the summers are short, and the effects of it has been found to be durable."

"The correspondent of the Union, in the kindness of his regards for Mr. Skinner, might have added, as to the Alpaca and all the other sheep peculiar to Peru, about the recent introduction of which into England so much has been said, and for the importation of which a company has been formed in this State, that, as far back as twenty-six years ago, Mr. Skinner caused them all to be engraved and published, beside their portraits, full memoirs of their natural history and qualities as adapted to the United States. More than twenty years ago he imported the first improved short-horn cattle into Maryland, merely to let the public see what they really were, and for the late General Van Rensselaer, whose friendship and correspondence he enjoyed to the day of his death, he imported three cattle of the same breed into this State which cost \$1,000 in Liverpool."

Mr. S. was, more than twenty years ago, at the instance of Governor Clinton, elected, along with the late Judge Buel, corresponding member of the great London Horticultural Society, when it is believed these three gentlemen were the only persons who enjoyed that distinction in this country. More than twenty years ago he was in correspondence with the late great Norfolk farmer, Mr. Cooke, Earl of Leicester, and with Sir John Sinclair, from whom he received, with his autograph marginal notes, a copy of his celebrated "Code of Agriculture." It was to Mr. S. that Sir John first imparted for publication his agricultural correspondence with General Washington on the agricultural capabilities of the several States of the Union."

All these things appeared in the pages of the American Farmer, commenced without a subscriber in April, 1819, more than twenty-eight years ago; so that, if honorary membership, resolutions of thanks, and presentations of plate and other testimonials, from agricultural societies in every State where they have been formed, can give claim to admission on cattle show grounds, our friend, the Editor of the Farmers' Library, would appear to be entitled to the run of them all. We happen to know that he has lately had invitations to attend and to address such associations, from Washington county, Pennsylvania, to Boston, Massachusetts. Well directed, then, was the kind notice of the correspondent of the Union.

THE DEPTH OF JACOB'S WELL.

The Rev. Dr. Wilson, of England, who has recently travelled through the Holy Land and published the results of his travel under the title of "The Land of the Bible Visited and Described," presents the following relation of his visit to Jacob's Well:

"At Shechem Dr. Wilson found a remnant of the Samaritan race, still and had some interesting conversation with one of their priests. In the immediate neighborhood is Jacob's Well, where our Lord encountered the woman of Samaria, and with simplest images instructed her in the sublime mysteries of spiritual truth. The well is situated amidst the ruins of a church which once surrounded it. The mouth was covered with two large stones. Rolling away these, the travellers, with their attendants, swung themselves down to a kind of platform, where they kindled a light, and commenced preparations for ascertaining the depth of Jacob's Well."

"It was now time to disclose our plan of operation to our native attendants. 'Jacob,' said we, 'a friend of ours, an English traveller and minister, (the Rev. Andrew Bonar, of Collyer, Col.) has been in the land of Jacob, and the other inspired records into this well about thirty years ago, and if you will descend and bring them up we shall give you a handsome bakshish.' 'Bakshish,' said the Arabs, kindling at the sound; if there is to be a bakshish in the case, we must have it, for we are the lords of the land. 'Well down you go,' said we, throwing the rope over their shoulders, 'and you mean to haul us up, let Jacob do the work.' 'Jacob was ready at our command; and, when he had tied the rope round his body below the shoulders, he received our parting instructions. We asked him to call out to us the moment that he might arrive at the surface of the water, and told him that we should so hold the rope as to prevent him from sinking, if there was any considerable depth of the element. We told him also to pull out one of the cables with which he had stored his breast, and to ignite it when he might get below. As he looked into the fearful pit on the brink of which he stood, terror took hold of him, and he betook himself to prayer in the Hebrew tongue. We of course gave him no interruption in his solemn exercise, as, in the circumstance of the case, we could not but admire the spirit of devotion which he evinced. On a signal given we let him go. The Arabs held with us the rope, and we took care that he should descend as gently as possible."

"When our material was nearly exhausted, he called out, 'I have reached the bottom, and it is at present scarcely covered with water.' Forthwith he kindled his light; and, that he might have every advantage, we threw him down a quantity of dry sticks, with which he made a blaze, which distinctly pulled out one of the cables from the top to the bottom. 'We saw the end of the well, from the top to the bottom, and we put a knot upon it at the margin above, that we might have the exact measurement when Jacob might come up. After searching for about five minutes for the Bible among the stones and mud at the bottom, our friend joyfully cried out: 'It is found! it is found! it is found!' We were not slow, it may be supposed, in giving him our congratulations. The price he carefully put into his breast, and then he declared his readiness, with our aid, to make the ascent."

"We found it no easy matter to get him pulled up, as we had to keep the rope from the edge of the well lest it should snap asunder. When he came into our hands he was unable to speak, and we laid him down on the margin of the well with the stones which he had rolled away. When he was the first words which he uttered on regaining his faculty of speech. It was immediately forthcoming, to the extent of about a sovereign, and to his fullest satisfaction. A similar sum we divided among our Arab assistants. The book, from having been so long steeped in the water and mud below, was, with the exception of the boards, reduced to a mass of pulp. It was, however, perfectly legible, and the depth of the well, which is exactly seventy-five feet. Its diameter is about nine feet. It is entirely hewn out of the solid rock, and is a work of great labor. It bears marks about it of great antiquity. 'The well is deep,' was the description given of it by the woman of Samaria to our Lord. It still, as now noticed, has the same character, although to an extent it is perhaps filled with the stones which he threw into it to sound it by travellers and pilgrims."

"The adventure which I have now noticed being over, we emerged from the well, and, sitting down at its mouth, we could not but think of the scenes and events of other days. We were near to the very 'parcel of ground that Jacob gave Joseph.' Jacob's Well was here! Here Jesus, the Saviour, came, weary with his journey, suffering from the infirmities of age, and, when he had reached the well, he came from heaven to accomplish the work of our redemption, which his Father had given him to do. Here he spoke with inimitable simplicity and majesty as never man spoke, setting himself forth as the Source and Giver of the copious and satisfying waters of Eternal Life."

## COMMUNICATIONS.

UNIONTOWN, (PA.) OCTOBER 4, 1847.

To the Hon. R. J. WALKER,

Secretary of the Treasury:

SIR: In the last two numbers of the "Union," I observed that three or four columns of its leading editorials are devoted to the examination of a letter I addressed a few days since to the Vice President, which any one who has ever read your official reports in vindication of the tariff of 1816 will see at once have proceeded from your pen. And as you—understanding the subject much better than the Vice President—have taken the task of answering off his hands, I now address myself to you, and beg your attention to some additional suggestions, which you will reply to or not, as you may think proper.

In my letter to Mr. DALLAN I stated the fact that in your report of 1845 you distinctly stated, more than once, that it was the object of the tariff of 1846 to prevent the substitution of American manufactures for foreign fabrics, and that we must take goods and not specie from Great Britain for our breadstuffs; otherwise, not having specie to spare, she would not pay as much for "our cotton." In other words, that your policy was to compel our farmers, mechanics, and laboring men to quit work and send their money to England to buy what they can and ought to produce at home, in the vain hope of thereby inducing Great Britain to pay higher prices for cotton. This I characterize as a British system of policy; and the pages of your report where these purposes are avowed having been referred to and not denied by you are taken for granted.

Now, sir, what will the intelligent farmers and mechanics—what will the whole people of this country say, when they look at a few facts derived from your own official statements, and which, therefore, you cannot controvert?

First, then, I state the official fact that Great Britain takes every year more of our cotton than she has taken of our breadstuffs for a quarter of a century. From 1820 to 1846 (twenty-five years) the whole of our breadstuffs exported to Great Britain amounted to \$16,951,184, giving an average of \$678,647 a year, while she takes more than twenty millions a year of our cotton. In 1845 she took \$39,598,051 worth of cotton and \$223,250 worth of our breadstuffs; being equal to one hundred and eight dollars worth of cotton to one dollar's worth of breadstuffs. Yet you say our farmers must take goods and not specie for their breadstuffs, otherwise England will not pay us much for our cotton. Our farmers and mechanics must quit work and send their money to England to buy iron, wool, hats, shoes, and every thing else, to enrich England, because she buys Southern cotton. In other words, free labor is to be sacrificed to slave labor. This is your system, openly avowed and not denied when charged upon you. Can you expect the farmers and mechanics, the free laborers and grain-growers of this country, to submit to such a system as this?

Now, sir, I assert the fact, and I challenge you to the scrutiny, that for twenty-five years (from 1820 to 1846) we have imported more than twenty dollars worth of breadstuffs from Great Britain in a manufactured form to one dollar's worth of iron and other goods? Fully one-fourth. When you buy a pin, a needle, or a yard of lace, you pay for the subsistence of the pauper labor of England employed in its manufacture. It is nearly all agriculture—but say one-fourth only, then what is the result? In 1845 Great Britain took \$223,250 worth of our breadstuffs, while we took \$49,684,059 worth of her goods; one-fourth the value being breadstuffs, makes \$12,421,014, while she took in its raw form from us less than a quarter of a million. So that we, in 1845, took in this way fifty dollars worth of breadstuffs from Great Britain converted into goods to one dollar's worth that she took from us in its raw condition. Yet you contend that we ought to increase our imports of British goods and destroy our own manufactures, consuming agricultural produce and creating markets for our farmers at home, to induce Great Britain to take more of our cotton!

But you contend that, by reducing our duties on British goods, she will be induced to take more of our breadstuffs, and you refer exultingly for proof to the operation of the tariff of 1846. To show how utterly unfounded this is, I will refer you to the practical operation of high and low tariffs on the sale of breadstuffs. Our highest tariff was the tariff of 1828, and the lowest the compromise bill of 1833. Now let us see what effect they had on the exportation of breadstuffs to Great Britain. Here are the official reports, showing that she took twenty-five times as much of our breadstuffs under the high tariff of 1828 as she took under the low tariff of 1833:

Table of our Exports of Breadstuffs to Great Britain for four consecutive years under the Tariff of 1828, and four under the Tariff of 1833.

UNDER THE TARIFF OF 1828.			
	Flour and wheat sent to G. Britain.	Corn & corn meal sent to G. Britain.	
1829	\$1,641,533	\$135,591	
1830	1,577,278	29,560	
1831	5,414,621	163,961	
1832	541,608	180	
Aggregate	\$9,175,150	\$329,292	
Average	\$2,293,787	\$82,323	
UNDER THE TARIFF OF 1833, (COMPROMISE ACT.)			
1834	\$96,834		
1835	25,241	\$3,576	
1836	1,134	550	
1837	6	1,396	
Aggregate	\$123,315	\$5,522	
Average	\$30,828	\$1,380	

Thus it appears that we exported about seventy-five times as much breadstuffs to Great Britain under the high tariff of 1828 as we did under the low tariff of 1833; yet you gravely contend, in the face of official facts like these, that low tariffs increase the export of our breadstuffs to Great Britain.

From these facts, however, I do not argue that high tariffs increase or low tariffs reduce the export of breadstuffs, as might be fairly inferred, but merely to show that it has no effect whatever; that when Great Britain wants breadstuffs she buys where she can buy cheapest, without regard to our tariff or her own. When she is starving she must have bread, she will buy it from us. And, in this connection, allow me to add another fact which may surprise you, to wit: that, during the last ten months, from September to July, we exported double as much breadstuffs to Great Britain as we did in twenty-five years before. By referring to the official reports on commerce and navigation, you will find that the whole amount of breadstuffs (wheat, flour, corn, and corn meal) taken by Great Britain from the United States from 1820 to 1846 (twenty-five years) amounted to precisely \$16,951,184, while it appears that the exports from September to July last (ten months) amounted to \$35,185,000! Yet you seriously contend that this enormous increase of export was occasioned by the tariff of 1846! If your tariff produced the potato rot and the famine in Europe, you are right, but not otherwise.

In your second number you allege that the imports will be increased fifty millions, and the revenue four millions, under the tariff of 1846. Still you say it has "taken a great burden of taxation from the shoulders of the people." Now, sir, by your own statement, it is manifest that the burdens of the people have been increased by the tariff of 1846 fifty-four millions—that is, they pay fifty-four millions more under the tariff of 1846 than they did under the tariff of 1842—fifty millions to foreigners and four millions into the Treasury. Last year our imports amounted to about one hundred millions, which, under the tariff of 1842, yielded thirty millions gross revenue, making the burden one hundred and thirty millions. This year, you say, our imports will amount to one hundred and fifty millions, and the revenue to thirty-four millions, making the burden one hundred and eighty-four millions—just fifty-four millions more than they paid under the tariff of 1842. To compel the people to pay fifty-four millions more money is a new plan of taking "burdens from their shoulders," and it will require all your ingenuity to make them understand it. It may be sport to the British, who get the money, but it is death to us who pay it.

But you console the American people for this loss of the home market to the amount of fifty millions of dollars a year, and the payment of that amount to foreigners, by telling them that they get their goods so much cheaper; yet, at the same time, you congratulate the manufacturers on the high prices they are receiving under the tariff of 1846. Now, how the manufacturers can sell high, and the people at the same time

buy low, is utterly incomprehensible to me, and I leave you to explain this the best way you can.